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The Honorable Frank B. Merr Assistant Secretary of Defa (Health and Medical) Washington 25, D. C.			
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BRIEF FOR: Deputy Director for Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : CIA Support to Interdepartmental Committee

on Nutrition for National Defense

- 1. This memorandum is for information only.
- 2. For the past three fiscal years the Agency has supported the work of the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense in the amount of 20,000 per year. The activities of this Committee have yielded information on friendly countries which has been included in Section 45 of the National Intelligence Survey but have otherwise contributed nothing of importance to US scientific intelligence.
- 3. Apart from intelligence usefulness, the program of the Committee has resulted in some economic assistance to underdeveloped areas. These benefits are not of direct concern to OSI, however, and it is felt that this use of OSI external contract funds is no longer justified in competition with other uses to which we can put this sum.
- 4. This view was expressed to the Project Review Committee on 2 July when the Committee reviewed the OSI External Contract Program for Fiscal Year 1960. Although I indicated that OSI was prepared to recommend immediate severing of financial support to the nutrition surveys, the Project Review Committee suggested it would be more appropriate to support the program through fiscal year 1960 and cease financial association beginning with fiscal year 1961.
- 5. The attached letter is to inform Dr. Berry that we will not be able to financially support the Committee beyond the current fiscal year but would like to participate in its activities as in the past.

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Assistant Director Scientific Intelligence

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Letr to Dr. Berry

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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HEALTH AND MEDICAL

JUN 8 1959

Dear Mr. Dulles:

On behalf of the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense, we sincerely hope that the Central Intelligence Agency will be able to support the activities of the Committee for Fiscal Year 1960 at the same rate of \$20,000 as in FY 1957, 1958 and 1959.

For FY 1960, the Department of Defense is contributing \$81,000; the Department of Health, Education and Welfare contributes on a continuing basis housing for the Secretariat, administrative services and logistical support, and the Atomic Energy Commission, \$10,000.

During the past year the Committee has conducted nutrition appraisal studies in Ethiopia and Peru. Ten countries have now been surveyed since beginning the program in 1956: Iran, Pakistan, Korea, The Philippines, Turkey, Libya, Spain and the native Eskimos of Alaska. For FY 1960, official requests have been received from the Governments of Ecuador, Vietnam and Chile. Interest in the program has also been received from Laos, Thailand and the Sudan. Our military mission and Government officials in Taiwan also requested a reappraisal of the nutritional status of the Armed Forces of the Republic of China.

As an example of the interest and good will that has been created in these countries, the Committee has also been asked to provide follow-up consultant services during FY 1960 in the Philippines, Korea, Libya, Peru, Spain and Ethiopia; and we will send representatives to attend the Third Armed Forces Internation Conference on Nutrition to be held in Pakistan in October 1959. The countries themselves have established nutrition follow-up programs. Nutrition Institutes have been officially established in Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Peru, Spain and The Philippines; also active programs of further appraisal and action are under way in Ethiopia, Korea and Taiwan.

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Every effort is being made to continue this program as a low-cost operation.

During the past year the following reports have been made available to your Committee representative,

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"Spain: Nutrition Survey of the Armed Forces"
"Turkey: Nutrition Survey of the Armed Forces"
Background reports on Peru, Ethiopia and Ecuador
"Ecuador: Summary of Nutrition Survey Plans"
"Chile: Summary of Nutrition Survey Plans."

During FY 1960 the following reports are to be published:

"Ethiopia: Nutrition Survey of the Civilian Population"

"Peru: Nutrition Survey of the Armed Forces and Selected Civilian Groups"

"Ecuador: Nutrition Survey of the Armed Forces and the Civilian Population"

Background reports on Vietnam, Chile and Laos.

As you may recall, the Committee was able to furnish pertinent information on rationing and the general feeding situation in Turkey and Iran last year to various agencies for planning purposes.

I would like to thank you again for your fine letters of appreciation regarding the survey reports and the contribution these studies have made to improve nutrition in the various countries.

I sincerely hope that your Agency will be able to continue to support the Committee as it has in the past.

Sincerely,

Frank B. Berry, M.D.

Honorable Allen W. Dulles Director, Central Intelligence Agency Washington 25, D. C.

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